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Secretary Gassman Announces Funding for Lincoln High School's Project Lead the Way Program

Will set students on career paths to good paying jobs

Wisconsin Rapids – Wisconsin Department of Workforce Development (DWD) Secretary Roberta Gassman today highlighted the Project Lead the Way program at Lincoln High School at a Principles of Engineering class.

Project Lead The Way Inc. (PLTW) is a national program forming partnerships among public schools, higher education institutions and the private sector to increase the quantity and quality of engineers and engineering technologists graduating from our education system. First developed in the 1980's, PLTW is now offered in more than 45 states and the District of Columbia.

"Project Lead the Way is a great way to help our students broaden their horizons," Secretary Roberta Gassman said. "The program's goals to increase the number of young people who pursue engineering and engineering technology programs requiring four-year or two-year degrees align perfectly with the departments' objectives to ensure we provide training opportunities for today's students as we build our future workforce."

The Departments of Workforce Development and Public Instruction have formed a partnership to promote PLTW throughout the state's high schools, providing a total of \$205,500 for the program. During today's visit, Secretary Gassman announced that DPI has awarded \$7,900 and DWD has provided \$4,300 to Lincoln High School for the 2006-2007 school year to support a new course in Digital Electronics.

"Governor Doyle's **Grow Wisconsin** plan calls for leading our youth down a path that allows them to gain new skills and plan for their future careers," Secretary Gassman said. "Thirty-five new schools have added PLTW programs this year, bringing the total number of schools participating to 92 and we are continuing to grow. This truly is a great success story for Wisconsin and our industries."

For more information on the program, go to <http://www.pltw.org/aindex.htm>

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